

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 712

By Rochelle

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Helen Wilburn of
Smith County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened and deeply moved to learn of the death of Mrs. Helen Wilburn; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilburn was a consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Smith County, Helen Wilburn was a highly respected member of the Carthage community; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilburn and her late husband, Junior, owned and operated the Wilburn's Cafe in Dixon Springs, before settling in Carthage and establishing the Court Square Cafe; and

WHEREAS, in 1960, the Wilburns sold the Court Square Cafe and opened the popular Carthage hangout, Sherry's Diner; Mrs. Wilburn retired in 1981 after a long and illustrious career in the restaurant business; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded individual, Mrs. Wilburn donated a significant amount of her time to the Smith County Democratic Party and made many campaign trips on behalf of the Clinton-Gore candidacy; and

WHEREAS, endeavoring to lead an exemplary Christian life, Helen Wilburn faithfully worshipped the Lord as an active and devout member of the Carthage Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilburn was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Helen Wilburn enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband of seventeen years, the late Donoho Alexander "D.A." Wilburn, Jr.; she was the proud mother and mother-in-law of Sherry Jo Anderson of South Carthage, Alex and Candace Richmond of Turkey Creek, and Leslie Alford of Carthage; and

WHEREAS, she was the proud grandmother of six grandchildren, Steve Anderson, Kelly Edens, Joe Anderson, Lawrence and Leah Silcox, and Blake Richmond; she will also be missed by her seven great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilburn leaves this world for a far better one, where she will join her parents, Tommy and Nerma Buckingham Goins; her first husband, Joseph Williamson, a U.S. Marine who was killed in action during the Korean War; and her second husband, Junior Wilburn, all of whom preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Helen Wilburn leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mrs. Helen Wilburn, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy and offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Helen Wilburn.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.